

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 24, 2005, pending claims 1, 7, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,231,059 to Pente (“Pente”). Pending claims 20, 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,632,268 to Schroeder (“Schroeder”).

35 U.S.C. §102(b) – Pente

Pending claims 1, 7, and 19 stand rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Pente. Applicant amends claim 1 to more clearly define the invention. Pente, however, does not disclose each and every limitation of Applicant’s amended claim 1. In particular, Pente does not disclose wherein the tabs of the back panel section are engageable with the tire to hold the front panel in a predetermined position. The apparatus disclosed in Pente is a toy. The tabs 8 and 9 of the back panel of the toy are incapable of engaging a tire so as to hold the front panel 5 in a predetermined position. As stated in column 3, lines 2 – 11, the tabs 8 and 9 engage the projecting flaps so as to hold the two halves of Pente together against endwise motion. There is no mention of a tire. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw this rejection and indicate claim 1 as allowable.

As claims 7 and 19 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and add additional limitations thereto, the argument above applies equally to those claims. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 7 and 19 are allowable and respectfully request the rejection of such be withdrawn.

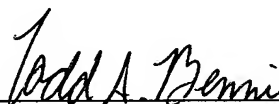
35 U.S.C. §102(b) – Schroeder

Pending claims 20, 22-24 stand rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Schroeder. Applicant amends claims 20 and 22 to more clearly define the invention. Schroeder, however, does not disclose or teach each and every limitation of Applicant's amended claims 20 and 22. In particular, Schroeder does not disclose or teach the tabs having at least one edge wherein the edges of at least two of said tabs are coplanar with the edge of the front panel, as required by amended claims 20 and 22. As is clear from Figs. 1 and 2 of Schroeder, the tabs 22 and 23 are not coplanar with any edge of the front panel, they extend beyond the edge of the front panel. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw these rejections and indicate claims 20 and 22 as allowable.

As claims 23 and 24 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 22 and add additional limitations thereto, the argument above applies equally to those claims. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 22 and 23 are allowable and respectfully request the rejection of such be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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